

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 77

RESOLUTION CHAPTER 75

Senate Concurrent Resolution No. 77—Relative to the Special Agent Richard “Rick” K. Oules Memorial Highway.

[Filed with Secretary of State June 26, 2014.]

LEGISLATIVE COUNSEL’S DIGEST

SCR 77, Cannella. Special Agent Richard “Rick” K. Oules Memorial Highway.

This measure would designate a specified portion of State Highway Route 140 from Arboleda Drive to Plainsburg Road in the County of Merced as the Special Agent Richard “Rick” K. Oules Memorial Highway. The measure would also request the Department of Transportation to determine the cost of appropriate signs showing this special designation and, upon receiving donations from nonstate sources covering that cost, to erect those signs.

WHEREAS, Special Agent Richard “Rick” K. Oules was born on January 10, 1956, in Merced, California; and

WHEREAS, Special Agent Oules received his Bachelor of Arts Degree in management from Saint Mary’s College in Moraga, California; and

WHEREAS, Special Agent Oules began his law enforcement career in 1977, with the Merced County Sheriff’s Department, where he served as a Patrol Deputy, Narcotics Detective, and Patrol Sergeant; and

WHEREAS, In 1987, he joined the Department of Justice as a Special Agent and was assigned to the Bureau of Narcotic Enforcement, where he worked on and supervised a clandestine lab enforcement team resulting in the investigation and dismantling of approximately 300 methamphetamine laboratories; and

WHEREAS, In 2005, he was appointed as the Director of the Department of Justice’s Division of Law Enforcement, where he oversaw one of the largest state investigative law enforcement agencies in the United States; and

WHEREAS, Special Agent Oules retired from the department in 2008 and, after a short break, joined the United States Attorney’s Office in Sacramento, as a Law Enforcement Coordinator, where he served until his death; and

WHEREAS, Special Agent Oules was recognized for his many achievements by being awarded the California Coalition of Law Enforcement Associations’ Top Manager Award for Excellence in Law Enforcement Leadership; and

WHEREAS, Special Agent Oules was the past President of the California Narcotic Officers’ Association (CNOA), served on the CNOA Executive

Board of Directors and the Executive Board of Directors of the California Peace Officers' Association, and was appointed to the California Council on Criminal Justice; and

WHEREAS, On April 4, 2011, Special Agent Oules died at 55 years of age after a courageous battle with lung cancer, which was determined to be a result of his frequent long-term exposure to the large number of chemicals and solvents found in methamphetamine laboratories; and

WHEREAS, Special Agent Oules' death was ruled compensable by the state; and

WHEREAS, Special Agent Oules is survived by his wife Lisa, daughter Crissy, father Roger, and mother Patsy; and

WHEREAS, Special Agent Oules' service and sacrifice for the people of the state are deserving of honor and tribute; now, therefore, be it

Resolved by the Senate of the State of California, the Assembly thereof concurring, That the Legislature hereby designates the portion of State Highway Route 140 from Arboleda Drive to Plainsburg Road in the County of Merced as the Special Agent Richard "Rick" K. Oules Memorial Highway; and be it further

Resolved, That the Department of Transportation is requested to determine the cost of appropriate signs consistent with the signing requirements for the state highway system showing this special designation and, upon receiving donations from nonstate sources sufficient to cover the cost, to erect those signs; and be it further

Resolved, That the Secretary of the Senate transmit copies of this resolution to the Director of Transportation and to the author for appropriate distribution.